

TOWN OF LANESBOROUGH SELECTMEN'S MEETING

Submitted by Diane Stevens, Town Secretary

November 16, 2015

Present: Mr. John Goerlach, Chairman
Mr. Robert Ericson
Mr. Henry Sayers
Mr. Paul Sieloff, Town Administrator

Warrants: Warrant Signed

The meeting was opened by John Goerlach at 5:15 p.m.

Public Comment

Michelle Johnson came before the Board to express her concern about the proposed increase to the Town Administrator's salary. She stated that she believes it is excessive and monies should go to departments such as the Council on Aging which she believes is level funded every year before salary increases are given to Town Hall employees. Ms. Johnson also told the Board she believed a mailing for the Hoosac Valley proposal will not be accurate and it should not be a paper ballot at the Special Town Meeting. Ron Tinkham stated that there are approximately 1,900 registered voters but only a couple hundred go to the Town meeting. Mr. Tinkham believes the polls should be opened for the day to get an accurate survey result.

Special Town Meeting for 12/1/15 - Mount Greylock School Agreement Amendments – Previously approved

Mr. Sieloff stated that this has been already been approved by the Board.[#1]

Proposed election or letter with ballot question to Town residents regarding Hoosac Valley proposal

(See Public Comment)

Special Town Meeting – Possible Warrant Articles

Mr. Sieloff told the Board that he is looking for approval for the entire warrant and he recommended that the Article 5 Alarm Bylaw be removed as Mr. Ericson has concerns which should be reviewed by Town Counsel.[#2]

Approve Recommendations on Special Town Meeting Articles

Article 1 (Mount Greylock Reginal Agreement Article) - placed and recommended unanimously by the Board.

Article 2 (Budget Transfer Article / Town Accountant Salary) - placed and recommended unanimously by the Board

Article 3 (Animal Regulation Bylaw Article) - placed and recommended unanimously by the Board

Article 4 (Overnight Barking Pan Article) - placed and recommended by the Board with a 2-0 vote. Henry Sayers abstained from vote.

Article 5 (Security Alarm Article) - not recommended by the Board.

Article 6 (Solicitation and Canvassing Door to Door Article) - placed and recommended unanimously by the Board

Article 7 (Town Resident School Survey Article) - Mr. Sieloff stated that it would have to be a motion on the floor for a paper ballot vote. Mr. Sieloff stated that other options would be for a special election day ballot vote or a survey mailing which would cost the Town approximately \$1,000. Mr. Sieloff asked the Board how they wished to proceed.

Mr. Goerlach asked if there was money available to pay for this. Mr. Sieloff stated that the Town Accountant did not get back to him with figures. Mr. Sieloff believed there was money to do a mailing if the Board chose this option but a ballot vote would be less expensive than a mailing. Mr. Goerlach asked the other Board members their opinion.

Mr. Sayers would like to table for now and see if Town could get more information. Mr. Ericson agreed to table the issue as well but would like to re-word the language to make it easier to comprehend.

Motion 15-173. Motion made by Henry Sayers to table Article 7, seconded by Robert Ericson. Motion carried 3-0.

Review and approve Special Town Meeting Warrant

Motion 15-174. Motion made by Robert Ericson to approve the placement of Articles on the Warrant as discussed, seconded by Henry Sayers. Motion carried 3-0.

Motion 15-175. Motion made by Robert Ericson to approve the recommendations for the Articles as discussed by the Board of Selectmen, seconded by Henry Sayers. Motion carried 3-0.

Town Administrator's Contract

Mr. Sieloff told the Board that Counsel could not attend the meeting and this item will be placed on the next Agenda. Mr. Goerlach asked Mr. Sieloff if he received language relative to a Town Manager position. Mr. Sieloff stated that he did not.

Other business which could not have been reasonably foreseen within 48 hours of the meeting
None.

Selectmen's Items

Motion 15-176. Motion made by Henry Sayers to rescind, in part, Motion 15-172 from the November 9, 2015 Selectmen's Meeting as it pertains to the street lights on Balance Rock Road, seconded by John Goerlach. Motion carried 3-0.

Town Administrator Report

None.

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn meeting made by Henry Sayers, seconded by Robert Ericson. Motion carried 3-0.

Footnotes:

[#1] Mount Greylock Regional School Agreement

[#2] Proposed Special Town Meeting Warrant